USA Comments AAHC Report - AUGUST 2005

CHAPTER 3.1.11.

INFECTION WITH XENOHALIOTIS CALIFORNIENSIS

Article 3.1.11.1.

For the purposes of this Aquatic Code, infection with Candidatus Xenohaliotis californiensis means infection only with Xenohaliotis californiensis.

Methods for surveillance, diagnosis and confirmatory identification are provided in the Aquatic Manual.

Rationale:

It is premature for the OIE to use the scientific name of this organism as shown. The bacterial pathogen's taxonomy has not been formally accepted as *Xenohaliotis californiensis* by the International Society of Microbiology.

Article 3.1.11.3.

Commodities

- 1. When authorising import or transit of the following commodities, Competent Authorities should not require any Xenohaliotis californiensis related conditions, regardless of the Xenohaliotis californiensis status of the exporting country, zone or compartment:
 - a) From the species listed in Article 3.1.11.2. for any purpose:
 - i) Commercially-sterile canned or other heat treated products;
 - ii) Gametes, <u>larvae</u>;
 - iii) Shells.

Comments

Article 3.1.7.3 1)a: ii) Larvae were excluded in this article, but included for all other mollusc chapters.

Articles 3.1.11.7 and 3.1.11.10

The sentence in each of these articles which reads:

"The certificate shall-should be in accordance with the Model Certificate in Appendix 6.3.2."

Comment: Recommend replacing the word "shall" with "should" as it is a more appropriate term when referring to a recommended procedure.